



NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

143 N. MAIN ST, BEL AIR, MD 21014-3539

May 2011

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: **Sunday, May 15, 2011** Time: **2:00 PM**

Place: **Susquehanna State Park -Rock Run Historic Area, 4387 Rock Run Rd, Havre de Grace, MD**

Program: **Stump-Archer Mansion -Tour & Picnic**



STUMP-ARCHER MANSION

The Stump-Archer (or Carter-Archer, or Rock Run) Mansion in Susquehanna State Park near Havre de Grace, is the site of our Society's annual off-site picnic this May. This portion of the Park, is known as Rock Run Historic Area, and is of significant importance.

Originally, this area was known as the "Land of Promise" a large land grant, belonging to Jacob Giles. John Stump of Stafford bought about 250 acres of this property for his business endeavors. In the 18th century, it became a thriving hamlet with a shipping and trading company, whose ships the Swallow and the Elk traveled back and forth to the West Indies. It also had flint mills, fisheries, a gristmill, and a bridge tollhouse. Still standing, and in working order, is the large gristmill built in 1793.

John Carter, bought a partnership in the gristmill, plus land for his house from Stump, in 1803 and built this thirteen-room house. Upon the death of Carter in 1805, Stump bought back his interest in the house, mill and property from Carter's widow, then gave the house to his daughter, Anne, and her husband, Dr. John Archer Jr. M.D.

The Archers raised a large family, with many of its members achieving prominence. Two sons were officers in the Mexican-American, and U.S. Civil wars. One became a general and another a prominent attorney with offices in Harford and Cecil counties. John Archer Jr. and Ann managed many of the Stump-Rock Run enterprises while John continued to maintain his medical practice.

Restoration of the mansion's exterior by the State Park Association was completed last year. Today the house is a museum, featuring many fine antiques. The interior was recently restored by the newly organized foundation, "Friends of Rock Run." Susquehanna State Park and the "Friends of Rock Run" are presenting to the public a very beautiful, authentic, and historic area, in hopes of keeping alive this part of Harford County history.

Please join us for an historical look into the Giles, Stump, Carter, Archer, Stephenson, Liddell, Patterson, Clark, & Baker Families. An order form for box-lunches is attached, with directions to the Mansion on the reverse. The Jarrettsville Creamery will be preparing these lunches that will be delivered to the picnic area.

MEETING SCHEDULE: March, May, July, September, & November

We hold five meetings per year, usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The March, July, September and November meetings begin at 2:00 PM at The Historical Society of Harford County Inc., 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. The May meeting is a box lunch held at various historical locations in the county.

2011-2012 HCGS DIRECTORY

President:	Doug Washburn	Douglas.Washburn@verizon.net
Vice President:	Michael Close	cmCjkC@verizon.net
Treasurer:	Arch Phillips	anmPhill@qis.net
Secretary:	Betsy Keithley	jeffkandBetsyK@comcast.net
Advisors At Large:	Jon H. Livezey	jLivezey@comcast.net
	Chris Smithson	ctSmithson@gmail.com
	Kathy Glackin	KathleenGlackin@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor:	Rich Appel	Richard.Appel3@verizon.net

Web Site: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhcg/

eMail: HaCoGenSoc@verizon.net

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our Society offers a small stipend to our program speakers, probably not much more than a tank of gas in most vehicles, so cost is a factor. The size of the organization and typical attendance prohibits us from having “conference” type speakers (e.g., hotel, air, food). Therefore, interesting *and useful* programs are, no doubt, the single biggest challenge the Board has to deal with.

This platform has been used on more than one occasion to solicit help for ideas (and people-power) concerning meeting programs and Special Publications. More often than the Board would like, a “good idea” turns out to be too difficult (or time-consuming or costly) to develop and deliver. In addition to history of local places and families, and the archives of a variety of denominations, we have been very fortunate over the years to get knowledgeable speakers on such topics as DNA, surveying, land patents, and the Maryland Historical Society.

A topic the board believes would be of interest to the membership is *photo dating*, but to date, we have not been able to find a local, knowledgeable speaker to approach. If you have this talent, or know of someone who does, please let Board members know via the E-mail or snail-mail address on the front page. If you are a non-Maryland member, maybe this is your excuse to come visit us.

- Doug Washburn

GENEALOGY FEATURE

AN EXPERIENCE WITH Y-DNA TESTING

Have you ever wondered about the whys and how’s of DNA testing? Could it really be a way to help break through some genealogical brick walls in your research? Well I did, and I would like to share my experience thus far.

I had worked back along my male Washburn ancestors to a probable great-...father named Luther Washburn, but have not been able to prove it or continue back, thus a Brick Wall. As I looked for solutions on how to proceed, I considered using a Y-DNA test, which is only for males since females do not possess any Y-Chromosomes. When the Y-DNA test results for two individuals match or are a close match the paper trail is confirmed.

The results include a balanced panel of thirty-seven Y-chromosome Short Tandem Repeat (STR) markers. This is the recommended test to trace the paternal ancestry of males for genealogy purposes. Testing additional markers refines the predicted time period in which two individuals are related, and eliminates unrelated matches. A perfect match at 37 markers indicates that the two participants share common ancestry in recent times. With the addition of results from known or living descendants of our common ancestor, and with scientific advances in this field, Washburn participants will see added information and matches in their personal record, at no extra cost.

In September 2007 the Genealogical Society’s program was “*DNA, Genealogy and You -Unraveling the Mystery.*” After much deliberation on privacy, cost, potential information gain, etc., I decided to take the plunge in 2010 and chose to contract with FamilyTreeDNA.com. I was sent a swab test kit that was certainly easy enough to use, and was presented with the option of testing 12, 25, 37, or 67 markers or locations on my male only Y-Chromosome, at varying price tags. I originally ordered the 25 Marker test, but since it revealed

two exact matches, the possibility loomed that the 37 Marker test would yield 2 or 1 exact matches, and get me closer to finding a common male ancestor.

Test results take several weeks to process and then you are sent an E-mail to log-in to the FamilyTreeDNA.com web site to view your matches (no, it is not a dating site). The information is displayed in multiple categories, depending on how many markers were contracted. What is reported are the differences or mutations between my Y-Chromosome gene sequence, at specific locations on the Chromosome, and those of others. My results were:

12 Markers -	Exact Match	= 15 Match(es)	{i.e. No genetic differences}
	Genetic Distance-1	= 6 Match(es)	{i.e. One genetic difference}
25 Markers -	Exact Match	= 2 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-1	= 10 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-2	= 5 Match(es)	
37 Markers -	Exact Match	= 0 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-1	= 1 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-2	= 2 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-3	= 4 Match(es)	
	Genetic Distance-4	= 3 Match(es)	

In my case, there were no exact matches at 37 markers, so there could not have been any at 67 markers. Presumably, if I had contracted (aka paid) for 67 markers the chart would have continued somewhat like this:




67 Markers -	Exact Match	= 0 Match(es)
	Genetic Distance-1	= ? Match(es)

...and possibly others.

If any one of my close male ancestors or descendents had Y-DNA test results on file with FamilyTreeDNA.com, then there would be a high probability that one more exact match would appear in every set of test results. This data is also portable, so it can be used to search other databases.


In a perfect world, every male from Adam (of the Garden of Eden) would have exact matches at 67 locations on their Y-Chromosome. In our evolving and mutating world, things are changing so the results we get can only be used to calculate probabilities that another test result set belongs to a male that is closely related to us. The premise being that fewer births between ancestors, results in fewer changes or mutations in their gene sequences.

Within each category, the name and E-mail of a willing contact for each match is displayed. For example in the category “12 Markers - Exact Match” to a fictitious male “Doe” with 1,000 possible common relatives, the report would begin something like this:


12 Markers - Exact Match	= 200 Match(es)	
Dr. John Doe, Sr.	drdoe@yahoo.com	
Joseph Doe	jdoe@gmail.com	 

...and many others that may or may not have released contact information.

The Name & E-mail provides a means to reach a contact person for the desired swap of genealogical information. Anyone who signs the release form, which comes with the test kit, is listed under the appropriate category, otherwise the contact is suppressed.

Before jumping to send-off an email, it is wise to analyze these results to determine the probability of a relation between you and those other test participants in the same category. First, every line contains a “relation” symbol , which is a hyper-link to a calculation tool for determining how likely this person is related to you within so many generations. If you are confident that you are not related within “n” generations (user changeable and would be 1 if you have evidence that the father of the tested participant and his sons are not in the pool), you can improve the accuracy of this “likely hood” prediction. Sampled participants in the same category (e.g., 37 Markers – Genetic Distance-2) will have the same probability for a relationship, given the same “n” generations value. This accuracy improvement lowers the probability of a match, because you are eliminating from the current pool of common ancestor candidates those you know to be false. What you are attempting to refine is a “filtered” list of contacts, associated with the same or modified surname as yours,

that are interested in family history, and may have clues and source references to ancestors on the other side of your “Brick Walls.”

Second, if the person listed has uploaded a GEDCOM (Genealogical Data Communication) formatted file with their ancestor and descendant relationships to FamilyTreeDNA.com, then the “FamilyTreeDNA” symbol  is also displayed, and is a hyper-link to that information. Somewhat to my surprise, my fifteen exact matches in the 12-Marker set and two exact matches in the 25-Marker set failed to provide a common male ancestor to any WASHBURN (including spelling variations) ever encountered in my extensive research.

Thus far, these efforts have allowed me to reduce the list of possible shared ancestor results. Next, each of those contacts that have not provided a GEDCOM file needs to be contacted to probe what they know. In my case, the search is for a source reference that can link a Luther Washburn to my ancestors, or find someone to “fill his shoes” on my Washburn ancestral charts. As with all genealogical data, you still need to get source references, so be sure to ask for them when swapping information. Please be courteous and share with other participants who may not know what you know.

At this point, I am hoping for E-mail responses, or someone else to provide new Y-DNA test results that could provide a link to our common ancestor. As for my relationship to Luther, it remains an unsupported conjecture. I am not giving up on this yet because there is a lot more to be learned from this data, but it does make one ponder if the potential reward is worth the cost and effort.

It would be interesting to know about your experiment(s) with Y-DNA or mtDNA (for female ancestors) testing, and resulting successes in expanding your family tree. We would like to compile a summary of experiments, and print them in a future Newsletter. If you are so inclined, send a brief E-mail or note to tell us your success story. Please DO NOT include too much private detail, just the kind of general information shown here. - Doug Washburn and Rich Appel

GENEALOGY TIDBITS

North Carolina Family Records Online

Many Harford County families emigrated from North Carolina, so the following resource could help many of us with our family research projects. Two of my wife’s ancestors were recently found to be living in the village of Middle Creek, in Fuquay Springs (Fuquay-Varina), Wake County, just south of Raleigh, NC in 1918. This was a surprise, since our efforts were focused farther south, around Lumberton, Robison County. They were listed in biographical sketches as prominent businessmen in a book (page images online), Amis, Moses Neal, *Historical Raleigh*; Commercial Printing Co; Raleigh; 1918.

North Carolina Family Records Online is a project of the State Library and the State Archives of North Carolina. The digitized records found in this collection are from the holdings of the **North Carolina State Archives** (NCSA) and **State Library of North Carolina** (SLNC). The collection contains more than 200 *Bible Records* from the more than 2,000 copies of family Bibles donated to and held by the North Carolina State Archives. The scanned images in the collection were made from photocopies or photostats created over the past 80 years by the staff of the NCSA. The collection also includes the SLNC's six-volume *Marriage and Death Notices*. This set contains indices of marriage and death announcements from five North Carolina newspapers for the period 1799 to 1893: the *Raleigh Register*, *North Carolina State Gazette*, *Daily Sentinel*, *Raleigh Observer*, and *News & Observer*.

Access is available at: <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/dimp/digital/ncfamilyrecords/>

Researchers can browse through the digital collection's images by family name or by location. The following descriptive information is provided for each record in the collection: title, date, subjects, place, time period, description, index terms, local call number, physical characteristics, collection, type, language, format, digital collection, digital format, and audience.

The collection can also be searched by keyword, by topic, or by date. The keyword search can be limited by the fields found in the item description. Topics include, but are not limited to, African-Americans, Air and Rail Transportation, various wars (American Revolution, American Civil War, Spanish American War, World

War I, and World War II), Governors, Legislators, Obituaries, Photographs, and Witchcraft. The date ranges in the date search comprise pre-1600, fifty-year increments to 1900, and post-1900.

If you have connections to the "Tarheel State," information in these collections may help with your research.

This article was condensed from an article by Beaudrault, Valerie; *The Weekly Genealogist*; Vol. 11, No. 32; August 2009; New England Historic Genealogy Society.

NEED TO FIND A GRAVE

Want to see monuments, headstones, or inscriptions in cemeteries, and don't want to suffer the cold damp winds, or hot muggy insect infested weather? FindaGrave.com has a solution that might fit your needs, with over 59,000,000 internment records in more than 300,000 cemeteries around the world in its online database. As for Harford County, MD, there are records for more than 32,000 internments in more than 130 cemeteries. Not all internments, but a huge portion, that could very well ease the burden of your research, and more records are being added by volunteers every week.

Each internment record includes fields for birth & death dates, cemetery name & location, photographs (usually the headstone, monument, or marker), memorials, relatives, biographical sketches, and notes. Contributors to each record are also identified. Unfortunately, not all of these fields are robustly populated in every record. Sure, there are some errors, but (1) this is not a primary source, and (2) corrections or additions can be incorporated by e-mailing information to the listed record "submitter."

A friend of mine has been submitting and updating this database with photographs. She enjoys her project and loves both photography and genealogy. Most of all she enjoys hearing from the people who were delighted to locate their ancestor's grave, and have a picture of the headstone. Her efforts have been concentrated here in Harford County, with a few excursions to Baltimore Co., Carroll Co., Anne Arundel Co., and Baltimore City.

As you search FindaGrave.com, you may see her name listed as the person who "Added" a photograph or other information and/or record "Creator." She has accomplished a lot in recent years, but no-where near the leading photo submitter's 120,000+ images.

Cemeteries where she has taken photographs include: Bethel, Christ Church-Rock Spring, Deer Creek, Jarrettsville, McKendree, Old Brick, Saint Ignatius, and Watters-Cooptown. Her name is Donna Jones, and she lives in Jarrettsville, *when not out taking pictures*. After visiting FindaGrave.com and using their search tools, you can leave messages for volunteers, like Donna, to give them praise, suggest changes or corrections, or request a picture be taken. ...*Rich Appel*

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

Washington DC Family History Center 5th Annual Conference

Date: **07 May 2011** (Sat) 8:30am registration - 3:15pm

Place: **Washington DC Stake Ctr**, 10000 Stoneybrook Dr, Kensington, MD near I-495 Exit 33 Connecticut Ave.

Registration: **FREE of charge**. For a description of classes, registration information, and directions visit

<http://www.wdcfhc.org>

Online registration is preferred, or download, complete, then mail a pdf form, or call FHC 301-587-0042.

Lunch is not provided, B.Y.O.L. but no refrigeration available.

Questions? Send emails to conf2011@wdcfhc.org or call M-Sat 9:30am-1:00pm.

Program: This conference will host 23 classes from beginning to advanced genealogy. For class descriptions see www.wdcfhc.org/conf2011/descriptions.php The keynote address, *The Library of Congress: Pursuing Your Family History in the National Library* will be delivered at 9:00am by James Sweany, Head of the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room at the Library of Congress.

Reginal F. Lewis Museum - Genealogy Series

Date: **07 May 2011** (Sat) 11:00 am Museum Café & Gift shops open 11:00am-4:00pm
Place: **Reginal F. Lewis Museum**, 830 E. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21202
Registration: **Museum admission \$8 required; To register, call 443-263-1816.**

Program: **Identifying Maryland Slave Owners.** Join genealogist Michael Hait as he traces Maryland records to identify the owners of the state's last generation of enslaved men and women.

More Info. at: www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org Programs - Genealogy Series, and General Information

National Genealogical Society 2011 -Family History Conference

Date: **11-14 May 2011** (Wed-Sat)
Place: **North Charleston Convention Center**, Charleston, SC.
Registration: see flyer www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/NGS_CharlestonFlyer_web.pdf
Conf. Fee \$245 for NGS member (join for free). Lodging, Luncheons and Social Events are extra.

Program: **Where the Past is Still Present** The four-day conference will include more than fifty national speakers providing over one hundred lectures including: researching in South Carolina and the surrounding states; migration to Georgia, Tennessee and the Gulf states; military records; research methodology; record analysis; problem solving; religious records; technology updates; and much, much more. Download NGS Flyer for details.

Virginia Genealogical Society 2011 -Spring Conference

Date: **20-21 May 2011** (Fri Library time 10am-3:00pm & Sat Conference 8:30am-4pm)
Place: **Library of Virginia**, 800 E. Broad St, Richmond, VA.
Registration: see flyer www.vgs.org/pdf/VGS-Spring-2011-Brochure.pdf for details & form
Fee \$60, or \$40 before 09May2011 if VGS member. Lunch included.

Program: **Bring the Gray Ghosts to Life -Civil War Confederate Records.** Four sessions: Southern Claims Commission, Ladies of the Civil War, Confederate Records at NARA, & Civil War Maps. Remember many Marylanders, including Harford Countians, fought for the Confederacy.

Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference

Date: **07-10 September 2011** (Wed-Sat)
Place: **Prairie Capital Convention Center**, 1 Convention Center Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701
Registration: Fee is \$185, with pre-registration ending June 30, 2011. Luncheons, special events, and workshops are not included in the price. For more information visit www.fgs.org/2011conference/ or call 1-888-347-1500.

Program: **Pathways to the Heartland**, hosted by The Illinois State Genealogical Society. Seminar topics include: Focus on Societies (organization, projects, technology, publishing, & programs); In the Heartland -Midwestern topics; Places to research; Technology; Immigration & Migrations; Records; Military; Where They Came From (foreign research); Writing and Sharing; Church records; and Indian research.

2011 Baltimore Family History & Genealogy Workshop

Date: **15 October 2011** (Sat)
Place: **Baltimore Maryland Stake**, Essex, MD
Registration: Registration for Classes opens late July. No cost.
Program: Save the date and look for details www.baltimorefamilyhistoryworkshop.org

JULY MEETING

Our **Sunday, July 17, 2011** Society meeting will be held at The Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 N. MAIN ST, BEL AIR, MD 21014 at **2:00 PM**. Please save the date, mark your calendars, and invite friends.

The program will be **"Families Associated with the Railroads of Harford County"** presented by Walter Holloway of HSHC. Look for more details in the July Newsletter and on our website.